

Winter 2019

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the Clarion

Your parish magazine with news and views
from Bolter End, Cadmore End, Lane End,
Moor End and Wheeler End



It's beginning
to look a lot like
Christmas...

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From the Editor

It's the most wonderful time of the year... if you're a child and don't actually have to do all the Christmas present shopping. And if you're not the one stressing about who's going to be where, when, and who's doing the cooking.

Ideally, we'd sigh prettily and beam serenely and say that 'of course all that stuff doesn't matter' and 'the most important thing is that we're together with our loved ones'.

And that's true... but what's also true is that you'd never actually get together with your loved ones if someone didn't take the initiative and sort out all the timings, find out who's turned veggie since last year and take the executive decision on whether David Attenborough would approve of crackers.

Perhaps the best Christmas present you could give to your loved ones this year is to be that person. If you're not usually the one who carries the glittering burden of the family Christmas, do it this year. Go on. Father Christmas has a list, you know!

Katy Dunn, editor. katyjdunn@btinternet.com

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Connect with your local community,
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Your Parish Council



laneendparishcouncil.org.uk

Parish Clerk

Hayley Glasgow

Tel: 01494 437111

clerk@laneendparishcouncil.org.uk

PO Box 1616

High Wycombe

Bucks HP12 9FS

Councillors

Chairman: Cllr Michael Detsiny

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Cllr Colin Harries

Cllr William Hunt

Cllr Tim Nolan

Cllr Jane Osborn

Cllr Mandy Sarney

Cllr Callum Stewart

Cllr Keith Wright

Parish Council meetings—

All welcome

All meetings start at 7.30pm and are held at Lane End Sports Association unless indicated on the Agenda issued before the meeting

No parish council meeting in January

Monday 3 Feb

Monday 2 March

Monday 6 April

Change of address

All future correspondence for Lane End Parish Council should be addressed to:

PO Box 1616

High Wycombe

Bucks HP12 9FS

Planning Applications

The Planning Applications relevant to Lane End Parish Council are updated on the Parish Councils website laneendparishcouncil.org.uk every Monday from the official list of verified applications supplied by WDC.

Whilst the parish council does not have the power to determine applications its local knowledge is sought on each and every application.

Street lights

To report a faulty street light please note the column number, the road where the street light is situated and the nearest property and report to the Clerk - Hayley Glasgow 01494 437111 / clerk@laneendparishcouncil.org.uk

Pot Holes / road repairs

You can track and report pot holes/ road repairs through the Buckinghamshire County Council website transportforbucks.net or you can call them on 01296 395000 / 0845 3708090 Monday to Thursday 9am-5.30pm and Friday 9am to 5pm.

If you consider this to be dangerous or an emergency, please call BCC on: 01296 382416 (9am-5.30pm Mon-Thurs 9am-5pm Friday) or 01296 486630 (out of hours and weekends).

Talk to us

We would love to hear your comments / suggestions / complaints or compliments.

Please contact the parish clerk Hayley Glasgow on 01494 437111

 fixmystreet.com

Report by Hayley Glasgow

FixMyStreet is a website primarily for reporting things which are **broken or dirty or damaged or dumped, and need fixing, cleaning or clearing**, like graffiti, dog fouling, potholes or street lights that don't work.

Is this a council website? No, but FixMyStreet does send your reports direct to your local council.

They are also published online, so that others in the community can read, discuss, and offer advice where needed.

FixMyStreet is an independent website, built by the charity mySociety. They wanted to make it easier to report problems in your community, even if you don't know who those reports should go to.

All you have to do is type in a postcode – or let the site locate you automatically – and describe your problem. Then we send your report to the people whose job it is to fix it.

FixMyStreet covers the whole of the UK. No matter where you are, the only thing you ever have to remember is the web address – **FixMyStreet.com**.



Here's a pic from the first bus run from Lane End to Marlow on 4 November.

Don't forget the new bus service from Lane End to Marlow Monday to Friday

Leaves Lane End Village Hall 9.11am

(stops at Simmons Way and The Row)

Arrives Marlow 9.22am

(stops at Dean Street and Chapel Street, Foxes Piece)

Returns from Marlow Chapel Street, Foxes Piece at 1pm

(stops at Oxford Road)

Arrives Lane End Simmons Way 1.14pm

(stops at The Row and Village Hall)

Look out for the Lane End calendar

Report by Tom Willett

Our Lane End 2020 calendar is very much a 'community calendar' in the broadest sense of the word. The content is all by local artists with local themes. Children from Lane End Primary School have made models of various Lane End landmarks, the pages are all sponsored by businesses based in and around the village and all profits will be split between four community groups.

These are Lane End Youth & Community Centre, Lane End Village

Hall, Lane End Twinning Association and Lane End Playing Fields/ Sports Association.

All the artists involved are local and include Julie Wetenhall, Beverley Matchette-Downes, Rachel Wallace, Sylvia Andrews, John Ashton and Jan Gaska.

The calendar sells for £8 and will be available from Lane End Youth & Community Centre, various shops in the village and at festive events including the Christmas in The Village.

We are also holding an Art Exhibition and Coffee Morning organised by Julie Wetenhall and The Wycombe Court Artists on Saturday 7 December – full details on our website: laneendcalendar.co.uk

Please support your local community by buying the calendar and all being well we hope to make this an annual production.

Follow us on Facebook
[@laneendcalendar](https://www.facebook.com/laneendcalendar)

For more info, please call Tom Willett on 07879 841474 or email tom.willett@gmail.com



SEPTEMBER 2020

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

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Lane End Calendar 2020



Lane End High Street by Children from Lane End Primary School

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Places to visit for Christmas spirit

Report by Katy Dunn

I had a couple of pages left so thought I'd do a bit of shameless promotion for 'my' National Trust places in Bucks, Berks and Ox.

If you're not yet feeling Christmassy, head over to Hughenden, Cliveden or Greys Court—or slightly further afield to Stowe, Waddesdon or Batsford Park for an injection of Christmas sparkle. If you're a National Trust member, you can visit all of them as many times as you like. Normal admission charges apply if you're not a member.

Hughenden — A 1940s Christmas Fri 29 Nov - Sun 5 Jan 2020.

Hughenden is set for a traditional 1940s Christmas with handmade

decorations, real trees and sparkling lights inspired by the make-do-and-mend world of wartime Britain.

The theme is inspired by Hughenden's 'Hillside' exhibition (new this year in newly opened rooms of the Manor) which explores the top-secret map-making role of Hughenden when it was requisitioned by the Air Ministry in 1941.

Families can follow the trail of Sergeant Hadfield's little Scottie dog around the pleasure winter gardens. £3 per child, includes a small gift.

Father Christmas grotto Sat 7, Sun 8 - Sat 14, Sun 15 - Sat 21, Sun 22.

Costs £9 per child (inc babies) with a small gift. Book online.



Greys Court — The gifts of Christmas at Greys Court

1 Dec—6 Jan

Greys Court is celebrating 50 years since the estate was donated to the National Trust. In tribute, every room will be decorated to represent a different gift.

The gift of 'Feasting' in the dining room has a table heaped high with food and drink and a 1m high champagne tower.

The gift of 'Plenty' in the schoolroom features toy displays including two working trains, a lego display and a soft toys and teddy bears including a life-sized reindeer kindly loaned by Asquiths of Henley.

For the gift of 'Peace, Tranquility and Goodwill to all men' Greys Court has teamed up with HMP Huntercombe

prison. A wintery forest has the centrepiece tree covered with a flock of 800 hand-folded peace cranes flying up to roost, created by the prisoners.

The prison bakers are also recreating Greys Court's mansion in Gingerbread under a snowing (paper snowflake) sky.

Cliveden — Family Festivities Christmas trail

Weekends in December, plus 20-24 Dec

Step back in time with this year's festive family trail through the grounds at Cliveden, inspired by the stories of Astor family Christmases on the estate.

The big day is creeping closer and Mr Lee, Lady Astor's butler, has a to-do list as long as his arm. He and the rest of the estate staff need your help to make sure everything is ready by midnight on Christmas Eve – has Cook remembered to finish the cake? Has the housemaid given everyone the right laundry? Make your way through the mayhem and help Cliveden have the best Christmas ever, and Lady Astor may even provide a few festive goodies to take home along the way...

£5 per child. Meet by the Info Centre to collect a trail map.

(Photos: National Trust / Hugh Mothersole and National Trust Images / Nadia Mackenzie)



You're invited to:

Lane End Parish Council's

Christmas in the Village Event

Enjoy warm mince pies, mulled wine and music presented by Blue Mic Music, Carols sung by Lane End Primary School and more.

Where: Lane End Village Hall

When: Friday 13th December 2019

Time: Doors open at 6pm, Christmas lights switch on at 6.30pm



The lowdown

Footpaths report

Report by Julie Wetenhall

Winter is here, the colours have been and gone, there has been rain and frost, and some of the paths have become muddy. Lane End has many walkers, plenty with dogs and I know there are quite a few walking groups that come especially to Lane End to walk, because of the many fabulous circular walks in and around this area.

Because of this, the paths are well used and can get churned up in the autumn and winter. Unfortunately this can be exacerbated by people who cycle or ride their horse on the footpaths. Not only does this churn up the paths even more, it is dangerous for walkers, cyclists and riders alike. Horse-riders and cyclists have no legal right to ride on a footpath.

If (like myself) you walk with dogs on a footpath and come face to face



with a cyclist or horse it can be scary and there could be a serious accident. If you do cycle or ride, please stick to the bridleways, which are designated for your use, and keep clear of the footpaths.

A quick moan about DOG POO!
Now I am absolutely for picking up your dog's poo, and taking it home or to one of the special poo bins dotted about the area. BUT I am dead against putting poo in a plastic bag and then leaving it and the bag on a footpath, in the woods, or worst still, chucking it and bag into the undergrowth or up into a tree. Environmentally this is far worse than just leaving it.

We still have a few problems with stiles not fixed (I am still waiting for

the Chiltern Society to help with this).

I have been made aware that there is a broken fence and a big branch which need sorting along Four Fields (the footpath along the motorway Lane End side). I also noticed that the bench on this walk has completely disintegrated; I'm not sure if this is due to rot or vandalism. It is a shame as obviously this bench was put in this place for someone or to commemorate someone, though I couldn't read the inscription. I will add all of these to our list of requested repairs, and if anyone else has seen something I haven't please let me know.

Julie.wetenhall@gmail.com.

Art Exhibition & Coffee Morning

Lane End Twinning Arts and Craft
Exhibition and Coffee Morning
to support Lane End
Community Calendar 2020

Wycombe Court House
Church Road, Lane End

Saturday 7 December
10.00AM - 4.00PM

www.laneendcalendar.co.uk



Lane End Calendar 2020



Lane End Players

Report by Georgie Brooks

Lane End Players will be performing the pantomime 'The Snow Queen' on Fridays 10/17/24 January at 7.30pm and Saturdays 11/18/25 January at 1pm and 5.30pm. The ticket prices are £10 Adults/£8 Concessions for the first Friday only and £12 Adults/£10 Concessions for the other performances.



The Box office for this annual eagerly-awaiting event will be open at the Hall on Saturdays mornings 9.30 to 12 noon from **7 December**, with the hall opening at 8.30am for those of you wanting to secure large numbers of tickets. You can while away the wait with a cup of coffee.

You can also book after 12 noon that day online

at www.laneendplayers.com, or by ringing 01494 880662 or emailing lepboxoffice@gmail.com

The Saturday matinees are always the first ones to become fully booked, but the 5.30pm show does not end too late for most children.

It promises, as usual, to be very exciting and you're sure to enjoy it!

Save Golden Guff

Report by Jerry Page

Firstly, many thanks to all local residents who contributed to the Crowdfunding for Justice initiative. With the funds collected, the Campaign engaged a solicitor and a barrister in an attempt to take RUR1 (Golden Guff) out of the Wycombe District Council Local Development Plan.

We argued that developers would need to apply to the State for 'Change of Use' for the area of Common Land covering the access to the field in order to convert it for private residential use. This could not be guaranteed as such permission may be withheld, meaning RUR1 was undeliverable. We argued that this rendered the Plan unsound.

The barrister, after a thorough review of the legal issues, came to

the conclusion that challenges to any future actual applications for planning consent requiring access over Common Land will be much stronger, while making better use of available resources, than trying to overturn or modify the WDC Plan. In his opinion, a High Court challenge to the Plan was unlikely to succeed.

We remain vigilant and will communicate via email and the Facebook page (Search Save Golden Guff Action Group in the Facebook app).

When actual planning applications that will threaten the Golden Guff are instigated we will need to fight Round Two. In this phase we'll bring all the technical and environmental

arguments to bear in defence of Golden Guff. It would be a tragedy and disgrace to lose such a perfect, natural bookend to the village of Lane End for the sake of ten expensive houses.

To find out more about the efforts to save Golden Guff, search for 'Save Golden Guff Action Group' in the Facebook app



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Hambleden Valley Gardening Club

Report by Janet Collins

The final garden visit of this year was in September to Diple Mill near Hook. Diple Mill is listed in the Domesday Book and was a working flour mill on the River Whitewater until its conversion into a country house in 1927.

Since 2000 the house has been refurbished and the three acres of gardens developed, laid out and designed by Rose McMonigall. Separate captivating intimate gardens, each with a particular theme, have been created amidst the delightful ambience of the river and mill stream and tributaries.

We have now started our new season of talks and our first speaker

gave us a wonderful presentation on the flora of the Mediterranean. The speaker was Dr Chris Thorogood, Deputy Director and Head of Science at Oxford Botanical Gardens.

What an inspiring talk he gave with an enormous depth of knowledge on all the flora of the region. He had some marvellous photographs, especially those showing how some of the more unusual parasitic and carnivorous plants worked.

We have two more presentations before the end of the year and of course we will celebrate Christmas with our members with our usual mulled wine and mince pies

Please view the events page to see what is coming up. New members are most welcome. Please contact Celia Warren on 01491 638691



Lane End Evening WI

Report by Ann Carter

We are certainly not all 'Jam & Jerusalem' so why not come along and join our friendly group as a guest for the evening and see what we do. Hopefully you will hear an interesting speaker, get to chat to new faces and meet new friends. Maybe you even have new ideas that our group could enjoy doing.

Following our very successful summer Bring & Share Supper we now look forward to our Christmas Dinner at the Grouse & Ale on 2 December. In October we made seasonal flower

arrangements, which was good fun, especially for those of us who usually 'plonk' a bunch of flowers in a vase! November is always time for our Annual Meeting.

We are holding our annual Christmas Tea Party on Tuesday 10 December and if there is anyone you know who does not get an invitation to this event please do let us know. We would hate to leave anyone on their own who would enjoy joining in, but unfortunately we just don't know everyone in Lane End!

We meet in the Sycamore Room, Lane End Village Hall at 8pm on the last Monday on the month (excluding Bank Holidays). Please contact Ann Carter 881987 for information.

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We held our regular autumn Officer's Talk on 11 October 2019 at the Lane End Scouts HQ Wheeler End. This was a change of venue which worked out very well. We were very fortunate in our Speaker, Lt Col Damian Wells RLC.

He spoke of the logistics involved in moving personnel, armaments and machinery from bases in the UK to the field of operations. He explained how the journey was split into different stages with different problems at each stage. He produced maps, diagrams and a video to illustrate his talk. He explained how the movement of personnel machines and arms were protected at each stage and, in particular, how convoys moving up to the front line were protected from local attack. He then answered many questions from the audience. Not surprisingly, we had a large attendance.

We had drinks and sandwiches after the event and our Speaker stayed on to answer more questions. A very good time was had by all. We make no charge for this event but we

received donations totalling over £90.00 from those attending which goes to the Poppy Appeal.

By the time you read this, we will have organised our Poppy Appeal collections. We owe a debt of gratitude to those who assembled the boxes, stuffed them with poppies, badges etc, delivered them to local shops and schools, and those who went house to house in the rain collecting donations and dispensing poppies and other items.

We will also have organised the Annual Remembrance Day parades (at Wheeler End and then Lane End) before the Church Service at Lane End Church on Sunday 10 November. For the last few years, attendance has increased at the Parade and Service each year. We hope for a dry day and good attendance.

We look forward to welcoming new members who can take part in our important task of providing funds to help service men and women and their families recover from their experiences. If you are interested in joining us, please contact those collecting donations for Poppy day and/or either Seddon Parmoor at 881662 or Andrew MacTavish at 881948






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Lane End Conservation Group

Report by Margaret Adnitt

The Lane End Conservation Group has been very active over the last few months. We have been delighted to welcome some new members over the past year.

The clearing of footpaths is our main aim and we have been very fortunate to have Nick Lodge, with his strimmer, on board.

The Harris Garden has looked very beautiful during the year and for this we must particularly thank Sue Crossan.

Litter is still a problem although I do feel that we are becoming more aware of the necessity to use the available bins. Keep it up! The main problem is still the wayside rubbish which is thrown out from cars and trucks - please do be sure to take your litter home.



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In 2020, Lane End Village Hall turns 100. It first opened its doors on Valentine's day in 1920.

Since then, the village hall has been the centre of many activities and for many generations.

To celebrate, the Village Hall Committee is holding a special lunch on Saturday 15 February.

Keep the date free if you'd like to join in toasting its success.

**Lane End Village Hall
centenary lunch**

Sat 15 Feb

£15 inc three courses

& drinks

Book now via sheila.

keatinge@gmail.com



How has Lane End changed?

Report by Andrew McTavish

Our Village Hall was opened in 1920. Whoever took this old picture in about 1912 would have been standing on open grassland. The Hall kitchen is there today, which makes it impossible to take an exact up-to-date shot.

Some buildings have not changed. On the left, the frontage of 'St Helena' with its upstairs balcony is almost identical. The next house is Cherry Tree Vets which still boasts its

projecting roof downstairs.

But then there is a large brick wall with a horse and cart on the road-way, partly obscured by the big post. These hide the entrance to what was Fletcher's coal yard, very important at a time when fires were the only form of heating.

The white house on the corner has not altered. Next, in the background, is the wall of Smith's mill, a wood yard and chair works, with its chim-



The Square. Lane End. c1912

ney dominating the skyline. The Smith family were Methodists, which accounts for the former Methodist church opposite North's, the Methodist Sunday School and the alcohol-free hotel.

Below the chimney and against the end wall of North's Garage is a lean-to, where Jimmy Shadbolt had a hairdressers.

A man can be seen in front of this. Presumably for the photographer's benefit, he is standing in the road - which would not be a wise thing to do today. The road is a little wider now as the next three cottages have gone, leaving us with the site of today's Harris Garden.

The middle cottage with the projecting bow window was the New Inn. It is not clear what the massive chimney behind the right hand cottage

was for. It did not belong to the next imposing building which bears the inscription 'Lane End Temperance Hotel 1899'. It still has the inscription today, although it has been changed into flats.

In 1912 it can be seen to have had a shop on the ground floor: J.Churchyard's Haberdashery and General Store.

The last building on the right was a private house; then for many years it became Druce's newsagents and today it is McColl's. The picket fence and the creeper may have long gone but the upstairs windows are the same.

It's the centenary of the Village Hall in 2020. Perhaps in 2120 someone will compare these pictures and note all the changes that will have taken place by then.





Frieth
Cricket Club

Report by
Ben Smiley 

No off-season for Frieth

Those readers who take the time to browse these pages will be familiar with the idea that there is no real off-season for Frieth Cricket Club, but I'd like to reflect on quite an amazing summer of cricket.

Our 2019 started in November last year, as we were awarded World Cup Club status. With it came the (successful) bid for a grant to improve our catering facilities. Taking advantage of the off-season prices, we purchased a brand-new gas-fired barbecue and two gazebos, and these have been working hard for the Club throughout the year.

We've hired the kit out to private parties, hosted evening matches with barbecue tea, served bacon rolls to the parents of those taking part in the Junior Section or supporting Frieth Village Fete and Sports Day, we've worked our new kit hard. We've been able to raise funds that would not have been available to us otherwise, and we've become even more engrained within our local community.

The combination of a English Cricket World Cup win in July and some stunning cricket during the summer Ashes series has created more opportunities for us to engage with new or 'returning to the game' players.

Our annual Race Night in October and welcomed nearly 40 guests. It was a typically great evening, raising nearly £900 for the New Pavilion Fund. This is superb, and our thanks go to all who attended, sponsored races or purchased horses.

Our pavilion fund-raising will continue for quite some time and general running costs of the Club are not cheap. Fundraising continues apace, and you can do your bit for Frieth Cricket Club this Christmas by making any online purchases via www.easypundraising.org.uk/friethcricketclub. Grocery orders, insurance purchases or general shopping that is done online, via this link, will generate a donation to the Club, at no additional cost to you. Please do investigate how you can

use this site; it really is easy to use!

To costs through a longer cycle, we had our square renovated this autumn. Deep scarification was followed by reseeded with a new type of grass. There'll be more work to do in spring, but things are looking good for a more consistent bounce, which should improve things for our batsmen next year.

On the playing side, our firsts finished second in Premier Division 2. Congratulations to them on their success this season. The seconds finished mid table in the Division 2, having enjoyed some very close matches throughout the year.

We have playing opportunities on

Saturdays and Sundays, and anyone who wants to get involved, whether playing, scoring or officiating, will be more than welcome. The same can be said of any potential volunteers for the more administrative roles: Fundraisers, marketers, coaches, treasurers and good people of the Lane End parish, make yourselves known to us at friethcricket@btinternet.com.

Many people have supported us this year, and your efforts are truly appreciated. For now, on behalf of everyone involved with Frieth Cricket Club, I hope that you have a wonderful festive period and a prosperous 2020.

Nurtured Beauty

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LANE END

Twinned with
St Pierre d'Oléron

So Much More Than Just a Sign

From Oléron

Report by Terry Dennett

The case of Maurice, the crowing cockerel (whose owner was taken to court in July for him being too noisy) concluded in September when the Rochefort Court decided in Maurice's favour. Explaining the ruling, Maître Papineau said: 'Under French law, it is necessary to prove a nuisance and this has not been done'.

The plaintiffs who complained about Maurice's early morning crowing were instructed to pay €1000 compensation to Maurice's owner plus legal costs. Further to this story a Mayor in Haute-Savoie has decreed that cockerels are now legally free to crow to their heart's content; the Mayor took out a decree to preserve 'Life in the Countryside'.



The other breaking news is that Oléron will host a stage of the Tour de France in 2020. The stage will be held on 6 July from Oléron to the Island of Ré. There will then be a rest day followed by a stage from the Charentais coastal resort of Chate-laillon Plage to Poitiers on 8 July.

It should be great fun but it will mean that the island will be very busy; book early if you intend to visit. Also Oléron has offered to host a nation's sportsmen and women for the Olympics which Paris are hosting in 2024; watch this space.

For the French, the start of November is a time for remembrance and honouring the dead. The Bank Holiday on 1 November enables families to visit their local cemeteries to place large bouquets of chrysanthemums on family graves to honour their relatives on All Saints Day. Then on 11 November, France was at a standstill as towns and villages honoured the dead of two World Wars. Unlike the British who wear the red of a poppy for remembrance, the French will wear the powder blue of a 'bleuet', the cornflower.

Best wishes to all in Lane End and why not come to see us in Oléron?

Coffee Stop

Report by Rosemary Davies

Have you a couple of hours spare on a Thursday morning?

Can you help serve coffee and/or transport people to and from coffee shop?

A coffee shop runs in the Sycamore Room of the village hall every Thursday 10am-12noon. It's been running for 15 years. The only time we close is if New Year, Christmas or Boxing Days fall on Thursdays.

We get around 40 people visiting each week. It's very much an opportunity to meet up with old friends. We welcome a lot of retirees, many of whom went to school at the same time and a few did their National Service together.

Occasionally, someone brings in old photos which are passed around and people share memories or recall names of past Lane Enders.

There have been a number of comments regarding the number of males who are regulars, as so often these gathering are seen as being more popular with ladies. At any Thursday morning there could be 10 or more fellas and five of our volunteer drivers are male.

We provide biscuits and coffee / tea

with as many refills as one can drink. There's a jar for donations. Occasionally some of our visitors bring home made cakes. In October we celebrated 15 years with doughnuts to accompany our hot drinks.

Some of our older visitors (average age 85) for whom transport is a problem are collected from home by car and then taken home or to the Community Centre to enjoy the lunch available there.

Each week we have a sales table of small items, the funds raised going towards the cost of subsidising outings and social events.



We currently have some 30 volunteers, with four required each week. I organise the volunteers' rota for a four month period after checking everyone's availability. Generally volunteers are asked to help no more than once every 4-5weeks.

Please let me know if you'd like to be added to our rota of volunteers. Contact me, Rosemary on:

soays@btopenworld.com

Lane End Youth and Community Centre

Report by Emma Savory

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET INVOLVED?

Could you spare a couple of hours every 6 – 8 weeks? Would you like to join our committee who meet (in a pub!) every two months to help organise events and discuss the running of the Community Centre? We would love to hear from you, please contact Emma on 883878 or leycc@hotmail.co.uk.

Christmas is fast approaching, look what we have on offer

CHRISTMAS Quiz @ The Grouse & Ale

Sunday 15 December from 6.30pm – cash prize for the winning team. All money raised from the raffle to be donated to the Centre.

CHRISTMAS Thursday Lunch Club

On Monday 23 December 2019 the Centre is hosting our Christmas Lunch festivities for our regular lunch club members. This year it is on Monday 23 December. You will be welcomed with a drink at 12.30pm. A traditional Christmas dinner with all the trimmings served at 1pm.

Followed by a choice of pudding, plus tea/coffee and mince pies. All this for £8.50. Plus a little bit of light entertainment and a raffle. This Christmas lunch is available to our Thursday lunch regulars and anyone over 50 who will be on their own over Christmas. Places are to be booked and paid for in advance.



Tuesday 31 December 2019. Join DJ Bruce for a disco on NYE, for the over 50s. Bring your own drink and nibbles, plus some cash for a raffle. Tickets cost £8 and can be purchased from the Centre office.

**Opening hours over the Christmas period

Closed from Tuesday 24 December 2019 until Thursday 2 January 2020.

We would like to thank all our and wonderful people who have supported the Centre throughout 2019, the Centre is here because of you and for everyone to use. We hope you continue to enjoy the facilities in 2020. On behalf of everyone at the Centre, I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Have you visited Lane End Youth and Community Centre? Have you seen our great facilities?



Birthday party

Exercise/fitness

Coffee with friends

Christening
Wedding

Mondays:	10.30am–12pm	'Drop In' Coffee morning, all welcome
	2pm–3pm	Gentle Exercise for the over 50s 07702 498924
	6pm–8pm	Pilates with Lauren Fois 07709 430634
Tuesdays	Free all day	Daytime available for hire
	6.30—8.30pm	Pilates fusion 07378 338803
Wednesdays	Free all day	Daytime available for hire
	6–8pm	Youth club
Thursdays:	12pm–1.30pm	The Drop-in Lunch
	2pm–4pm	1 st Thurs of the month – LEOPAG
	7.30pm–10pm	Soundforce Big Band Rehearsal
Fridays:	9.30am–10.30am	Circuit Training 07884 154081
	6–8pm	Bells and Whistles dog training
Saturdays	9am–12pm	Bells and Whistles dog training 07703 020344

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What's On?

To include your event or group meeting (free) email: katjdunn@biminternet.com
Please also be sure to inform me of any changes

Mondays

Regulars

Simply Walk—10am Meet Lane End Playing Field's car park. Walk and chat for 1-2 hours

Drop-in coffee morning—10.30-12.30am, LEYCC, Edmonds Road, Lane End. Tel: 883878

Gentle exercise for the over 50s—2-3pm LEYCC Tel 883878

Rainbows and Brownies—4.30-7.30 Frieth Village Hall. Rainbows tel Lesley 882665, Brownies tel Katherine 07545 549910

Pilates—6-8pm with Lauren Fois at LEYCC. Tel 07709 430634

Lane End Evening WI—Last Monday of the month at 8pm in Lane End Village Hall

Bridge Club—7.30pm Lane End Village Hall

Monday events

23 Dec—LEYCC lunch club Christmas lunch. 12.30pm. £8.50 at the Community Centre.

Tuesdays

Regulars

Child Health Clinic—First and third of the month, 9.30-11am, Lane End Childrens Centre, (Lane End Primary School). Tel 01628 475456 Just turn up

Tai Chi—2-3pm Lane End village hall. £6 per session. Tel 532088

Pilates fusion—6.30-8.30pm LEYCC. Tel 07378 338803

Hambleden Valley Gardening Club—7.30pm, First Tuesday of the month, Skirmett Village Hall. Tel 01491 638690

Slimming World—5.30pm and 7.30pm at Lane End village hall. Call Marion on 07887 607987

Circuit Training—7-8pm Frieth Village Hall. Tel Fraser 07884 154081

Bingo—7.30pm Sycamore Room, Lane End Village Hall. Tel 01494 882467

Tuesday Events

3 Dec—Talk about Lancelot 'Capability' Brown. Hambleden Valley Gardening Club Tel 01491 638691

**Christmas eve—Christingle. 5pm
Lane End Holy Trinity church.
Christmas eve service 11.30pm**

New Years Eve—Over 50s disco LEYCC. £8 at the Community Centre.

7 Jan—Talk on wildlife and how our seasons are changing. Hambleden Valley Gardening Club Tel 01491 638691

4 Feb—Talk on bulbs for the garden. Hambleden Valley Gardening Club Tel 01491 638691

Wednesdays

Regulars

Pop in and play—(for childminders and nannies) 9.30-11am, Lane End Childrens Centre, (Lane End Primary School). Tel 01628 472121 Just turn up

Gracewell open day—10am-4pm. Tel 412252

Bridge Club—1.30pm Lane End Village Hall

Senior Circuits—11am-12noon. Lane End Village Hall, £4 per session. Tel 07940 358371

Junior Youth Club—6-8pm LEYCC Tel 07787 402636

School of Traditional Medieval Fencing—7.30pm Lane End Village Hall

Wednesday events

4 Dec—2.30pm Jean Claude, singer covering a variety of songs through the ages. All welcome. Gracewell care home on The Row.

25 December—Christmas day service 9.15 Lane End Holy Trinity, 11am Cadmore End St Mary le Moor church

Thursdays

Regulars

Simply Walk—10am Lane End Playing Field's car park. Walk and chat for 1-2 hours

Coffee Stop—Village Hall 10-12noon. Coffee and chat. All welcome.

The Drop-In (Social lunch) - 12-1.30pm
LEYCC 883878

Four Ends Flower Club—Fourth Thursday of the month 1.45pm in Lane End Village Hall. Visitors £6. Flower arranging demonstration, raffle, tea and cake. Tel 01628 476971

LEOPAG—First Thursday of the month
2-4pm LEYCC 883878

Lane End Players—8pm Village Hall Tel 483359

Thursday Events

5 Dec—6.15pm Chris the Piano Man. Everyone welcome, Gracewell care home on The Row.

Fridays

Regulars

Morning Prayer—9.15am Holy Trinity Church Lane End

Circuits—9.30-10.30am LEYCC 883878

Pop in and play—9.30am-11am, Lane End Childrens Centre, (Lane End Primary School). Just turn up. £1 suggested donation.

Forever Friday Café—2-4pm at Gracewell care home on The Row. Tea, coffee and cake. Bring puzzles and books to donate, buy or just socialise. All proceeds to Alzheimer's Society. All ages welcome.

Craft group—first and third Friday of the month in Lane End Village Hall. Tel 01993 837078 for details

Bells and Whistles dog training—6-8pm LEYCC. Tel 07703 020344

Friday Events

10/17/24 Jan—The Snow Queen by Lane End Players at Lane End Village Hall.
7.30pm. Tickets £12 adults, £10 concessions

Saturdays

Regulars

Vinyasa flow yoga with Matthew Huy—8.30-9.30am Frieth Village Hall. £10 for 6 classes. 07861 465691

Coffee Shop—Enjoy coffee and cake on the first and third Saturdays of the month, 10am-12noon, Lane End Village Hall.

The Twinning Association runs the first Saturday in the month, Holy Trinity the third.

Lane End Conservation Group—First Saturday of the month, 10 am 'doctors' car park

Whistles & Bells dog behaviour school—9-12noon LEYCC, Tel Jenny 07703 020344

Wycombe Ladies—Saturday afternoon at Lane End Playing Fields.
emma_newberry@hotmail.co.uk

Saturday Events

7 Dec—bookings open at the village hall for panto tickets. 9.30am-12noon.

7 Dec—1-3pm Christmas Fair at Gracewell care home. Everyone welcome, Santa's grotto, hot filled rolls from the carvery, mulled wine and mince pies.

14 Dec—High Wycombe Choral Society carol service. Mince pie and mulled wine. Gracewell care home.

11/18/25 Dec—The Snow Queen by Lane End Players at Lane End Village Hall. 1pm and 5.30pm. Tickets £12 adults, £10 concessions

Sundays

Regulars

Holy Eucharist—8am fourth Sunday of the month

Parish Communion—9.15 Holy Trinity Church Lane End (1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month)

Jump 4Joy—10am Holy Trinity Church Lane End (2nd Sunday of the month) This service is designed for young families, but everyone is welcome.

Elim service—10.30 am at Elim Hope Church, Edmonds Road, Lane End

Sung Eucharist/Family Service—11am St Mary's Church Cadmore End

Lane End Players—7.30pm Village Hall Tel 483359

Sunday Events

1 Dec—6pm Cadmore End St Mary le Moor church. Advent carol service

15 Dec—6.30pm. LEYCC Christmas quiz at the Grouse & Ale. Tel 883878

22 Dec—11am Holy Trinity Church Choir carol service, mince pie and mulled wine. Gracewell care home.

22 Dec—6pm Cadmore End St Mary le Moor church. Village carol service

Robin taming

I am briefly returning to the subject of ravens: recently, when returning to Lane End up the valley from Hambleden, I noticed around thirty large black birds wheeling above a copse; I stopped the car to observe for a while, and sure enough, they were ravens with distinctive wedge-shaped tails and harsh, deep croaking. So somewhere nearby, we have a permanent 'congress' or 'unkindness' of ravens.



As Christmas approaches, we will see robins appearing on Christmas cards and baubles. There are two versions of the bird's association with Christmas: first, that a brown robin fanned with its wings the embers of a dying fire in the stable to keep baby Jesus warm, but as the fire rekindled, the robin's breast was burned. Mary said that its breast would remain red so that its act of kindness would be remembered forever.

Second, that a robin picked a thorn from Christ's head as he hung from the cross and a splash of blood on its breast remained as a symbol of its compassion thereafter.

My mother loved robins and tamed a succession of them. She would put out live mealworms on her bird-table until a robin appeared whenever she went outside. Then she would put the mealworms on top of a dustbin outside her back door. Finally, when the robin sat on her fence by the dustbin calling to be fed, she would open the door and hold out some mealworms on her hand until the robin flew down and picked them off.

The robin could argue that it tamed her! Each one would only be around for a while, before it moved on or was displaced by a more dominant one: then the process would begin again. Have a go yourselves with a Christmas robin this year.



Lane End resident Jerry Gray is author of a darkly humorous satirical novel set in the recruitment industry. He's also a keen birdwatcher.

How to get your kids out for a winter walk

Report by Katy Dunn

I'm pretty sure I've given you these tips before, but they stand repeating. In winter it's more important than ever to make the most of those crisp, blue-sky days to top up your vitamin D and get some outdoor exercise.

When my kids were small, I used these persuasion techniques to get them out of the house for some fresh air. Now they're teenagers (or nearly, for one of them) I'd love to say I have seven top tips for getting them out, but in all honesty, there are only three. Literally, just three if-you're-lucky-and-catch-them-on-the-right-day little nudges to rouse them from bored lassitude and into the woods and fields.

I'll pass those on at the end, but the first set is for young children.

1/ It's all in the marketing

Don't call it a 'walk'. Or not just a walk, it could be a 'welly walk' if it's wet, or a 'parachute walk' if it's windy. It could be a field investiga-

tion or a woodland adventure. Just don't say 'let's go for a walk'.

2/ Look for animal tracks

Before you Peppapig jump in a muddy puddle, check the edges for animal tracks. It could be a duck, deer, dog or dinosaur!



3/ Make an obstacle course

Suggest a simple walk from A to B and your ears will hurt from the whining. Suggest an obstacle course in a woodland and your ears will hurt from the cries of glee. Use logs as balance beams, trees as slaloms and sticks laid on the ground to hop over.

4/ Take binoculars

Winter is a great time for birdwatching. Birds are so much more visible without leaves on trees to conceal them. Take a spotter guide and tick off the birds you manage to identify.



5/ Borrow a dog

It doesn't work if it's your own, I'm afraid. Dog-walking soon loses its appeal if it's a daily occurrence and quickly becomes a chore.

Borrow someone else's though, and all of a sudden, it turns into a treat. The novelty and responsibility of holding the lead is a huge thrill to children.

How to get your teens out

6/ Make it a scavenger hunt

Set out on a walk with a list of items for the child to find. The obvious things are acorns, twigs, beetles or woodlice, beech mast, conkers, crisp brown leaf, forked stick. Who doesn't love the satisfaction of ticking things off a list?

7/ Take a litter picker

Buy a cheap litter picker tool off the internet. Kids love them. They can see the point of going out litter picking and it gives them things to find.

There's also the added advantage of clearing up our wonderful villages. Join the Lane End Conservation Group Action Days (on the first Saturday of the month) and then you can litter-pick in good company.

As I said—literally, just three ways you'll ever prize teens off the sofa.

1/ Phone a friend

If you plan a walk with a friend with similar-aged kids, FOMO kicks in and they're suddenly interested.

2/ Bribery

There needs to be a pub involved somewhere along the route. The promise of a fizzy drink and a pack of crisps will sometimes do the trick.

3/ Coercion

If the alternative to a winter walk is unstacking the dishwasher for a week or turning off the wi-fi while you're out, you may just find yourself with a teenage walking partner.



Organised chaos: herding cadets is worse than herding cats

By Andrew MacTavish

The Dedication of Lane End's new war memorial 20 years ago is a story that deserves to be remembered

'Would you proof-read the Order of Service?' asked Roger.

Roger was Chairman of the Lane End Royal British Legion. It was the late summer of 1999 and the new War Memorial on Lane End's village green was to be consecrated on 5 September. It was engraved with the names of the fallen in both World Wars and included the crew of the Canadian Lancaster bomber that crashed in Widdenton wood in 1945.

What was going to make the service especially significant was that the Archbishop of Canada was to perform the ceremony, and he was descended from the very first vicar of Lane End. It would be a very special occasion.

I turned over the draft pages that Roger gave me. Prayers... hymns... dedication...the National Anthem and...

'Four verses of the Canadian National Anthem! Plus choruses! Isn't that

a bit much? We'll be singing all night.'

Roger was a little hurt. 'It's taken me some time to find the anthem and I've already cut out three verses. I don't want to insult the Canadian Archbishop by removing any more.' He was adamant. 'I've arranged for the Marine cadets to play. I heard them play *Hearts of Oak* and they're very good'.

I left Roger and I was slightly uneasy. Would a cadet band have access to the music for the Canadian national anthem? I guessed they would not. I found the telephone number and rang them.

'The lads are really excited about playing for you,' the Marine cadet bandmaster said cheerfully. 'You can probably hear them practising *Hearts of Oak*.'

'I rang because I'm worried about the Canadian National Anthem. Have you got the music?'

There was a long pause. 'Hang on' he said. 'My lads are small. A few are only eight years old. They march pretty well and they play *Hearts of Oak*, and that's about it.'

I told him that would be splendid and rang off. I rapidly found the telephone numbers of the brass section of my school band. To my relief, three of them were available and happy to find the music for the Canadian national anthem ('You did say four verses?!')

FLY-PAST

I went round and told Roger. He was busy working out timings. 'The Archbishop is dedicating the new stained glass window at the church and will come to the memorial at 3pm. I'd like you to ensure that everyone is

ready at that time. We need to move people from the village hall, gather the marching cadets and coordinate the arrival of Legion standard party from the car park to get them there in good time too...

'The Lord Lieutenant will need to be met at the memorial. And will you speak to the pilot to organise the fly-past during the National Anthems. (*What fly-past?*). He will need to be told when to take off from Booker Air Park. He must arrive on time.'

I rang the pilot. He was cheerful. 'There will be three planes. We'll stand by in the flying club. It'll only take a few minutes to get to you so I'd like you to make contact about 45 minutes before, tell us when 'Abide with me' starts, and we'll circle at the



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airfield until you tell us to come.'

The great day came. At 1.30pm I met the brass players at the memorial. They were prepared. The positions of the Legion, the church party and other groups were marked out. A number of small - very small - cadets were collecting on the road-side. I went to the village hall where a large crowd was gathering. I kept an eye on my watch; Roger's planning was impressive.

The cadets struck up their rendition of '*Hearts of Oak*' and began to march busily on the road by the green. I saw a small Austin Mini hovering near them. A large Lord Lieutenant in full gold-bedecked

uniform extracted himself. 'Those lads are playing well' he said cheerfully. I couldn't but agree. They were well into their fifth or sixth rendering of *Hearts of Oak*.

At the crowded village hall I found him a cup of tea and warned him about the four Canadian verses. He winced. 'I can't hold a salute that long!'

It was 2.25 pm. Twenty minutes to go. Everything seemed to be going well as I glanced out of the window towards the church...

...The church choir was emerging, followed closely by the Vicar and Archbishop. My mind reeled. They were at least twenty minutes early.

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Nobody was in position at the Memorial except the cadets playing *Hearts of Oak* - yet again. This was desperate. Trying to sound calm, I raised my voice over the hubbub in the Hall... 'Ladies and gentlemen. The Archbishop is leaving the church. Shall we go to the memorial?'

There was an immediate clatter of cups, coats, hats and walking sticks, as people jostled to the doors. I pointed the Lord Lieutenant in the right direction, excused myself and rushed over to the village car park.

THEY'RE COMING!

The Legion were relaxed, chatting, smoking. 'Get fell in!' I yelled. 'No

worries' called someone, 'We've got bags of time'. 'They're coming now!' I roared.

'What?' The standard bearer rushed to his car to get the standard. The three brass players were sitting under their gazebo. 'Get ready to play. Now!' They scrambled to their feet, grabbing instruments.

The Lord Lieutenant arrived and positioned himself in front of the Memorial. People were flooding forwards from the village hall. The Bandmaster was counter-marching the cadets towards us. The Legion were wheeling out of the car park, coming directly towards him, scatter-



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ing adults and small children.

The Bandmaster looked alarmed at the imminent collision. He did some hand waving and shouting. *Hearts of Oak* tailed off and his followers tripped over the kerb onto the grass.

Back to the Legion. The standard bearer lead the column - smart, erect, swinging his gloved arm - shot me a panic stricken look and mouthed: 'Where the heck do I go?'

Realising no one had taken charge, I shouted 'Legion. Take commands from me.' I somehow steered the column through the milling bodies from the village hall and around the wreath layers. With some final shuffling and nudging, everyone settled just as the crucifer, choir and the

Archbishop's party arrived serenely on the scene.

Roger gave me a discreet nod. The Vicar gave the opening words. My pulse was returning to normal. Everything was fine...

The planes! I had forgotten the planes! Without turning, I slowly backed through the crowd, dived behind the hedge and pulled out the mobile. The brass trio burst into 'O God, our help in ages past' as I rang the number. 'Hil' said the cheerful pilot. 'Everything going OK?' 'We're 20 minutes ahead of the timesheet'. 'What! We're still in the café. Good grief! We might not get there in time... I'll ring you when we're ready to take off...'

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I slid back round the hedge. The service was well under way and going well. The singing was good, the lesson and prayers were read well, the Archbishop impressive. The Lord Lieutenant saluted nobly for the length of the first two verses (and choruses) of the Canadian anthem, and snapped his arm down for the last two. As he did so, the mobile buzzed. I slid back behind the hedge. A panting voice said 'You haven't finished, have you? We're ready to go' ... 'No. Come fast, straight down the road!'

The Archbishop gave the final blessing. The congregation started to break up. But fortunately, people don't move quickly at such an event

and there was a roar as the three planes crested the top of the Temperance Hotel and sped over us, wagglng their wings. Everyone cheered and waved wildly. The planes did a wide circuit, came back and zoomed back towards the air-field. Brilliant!

At tea in the Hall. I thanked the brass players over tea ('Four verses was a bit painful, sir'). The Bandmaster was beaming. The Legion standard bearer gave me a nudge. 'That was a bit close'. The Archbishop was chatting to Roger: 'It all went so well... calm and dignified...the timing off the fly-past was perfect. There must have been a lot of planning for it to go so smoothly...'



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Farming for nature

This autumn we have been looking at wildlife across our farm. It is important for so many reasons to support the wildlife and precious chalkland eco systems that we have in the Chilterns. Farmers do a lot for Britain's rural environment, but there is only so much that an individual,

acting in isolation, can do on his or her own farm.

We have recently joined a group called the Chiltern Cluster Group. This is a group of local farmers all working together to help support our local wildlife. By working together, helped by a Conservation Advisor, farmers and land managers can work more cohesively together in their locality, enabling them to collectively deliver greater benefits for soil, water and wildlife at a landscape scale.

Agri-environment schemes are not a new thing, farmers across the UK have been involved in them for many years, but unfortunately these schemes, and environmental schemes in general are a big loser in this extended Brexit withdrawal. The EU has been the governing body for these kind of programmes in the past. In the last three and a half years no new





programmes have been set up as no one knows who is going to be responsible for them, and ultimately finance them.

This new cluster group has been set up by the Chiltern Society, and their Chalk Cherries and Chairs project. Thanks to National Lottery funding, the five-year scheme will encourage people to connect and reconnect to the wildlife and cultural heritage of the Central Chilterns through a number of individual but

interweaving projects. There are three key themes: Wildlife & Landscape, Heritage & Landscape and People, Communities & Landscape.

We will be starting this week with supplementary feeding of our farm land birds. This is to help and support birds over the harsh winter months when food is scarce. We will be working with the group to do some recording of bird species, and hoping the information we gather will help us to target species in need of support more in the coming years.

Aside from this project we were delighted to see Barn owls back at the farm end of the farm this autumn. We built and erected a barn owl box three years ago. Working with Bisham Barn owl trust, we had the box up for two years in one location with no success. So this spring



we moved it, and two nights in a row last week I saw the first Barn Owl using it!

We were also thrilled in October to be invited to the Chiltern Society Awards. We had been entered in to the best farm shop and chuffed to bits to win the 'Best Newcomer Award!'

As Christmas is approaching fast the shop is stocked up and ready for you. We will be hosting our Christmas Fayre On Saturday 30 November and Sunday 1 December.

There will be lots of festive goodies and food to try and buy. It is the perfect weekend to get your Christmas meat orders in if you have not already done so.

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For the person who asked this question, the cause of the wet floor was condensation dripping off the outside of the toilet cistern.

People are surprised when I tell them this because it's normally associated with steamed up windows. Toilets with a condensation problem tend to have a cistern that is filled with high-pressure cold water from the mains, as opposed to a header tank in the loft. Mains pressure water is much colder than tank water so when it meets the warm, damp atmosphere of a bathroom, condensation forms and runs on to the floor. Lagging the inside of the cistern or even keeping a tray under the toilet to catch the water will help.

My annual reminder at this time of year is to ensure you isolate your outside tap and look after any other vulnerable pipework.

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What's crop rotation?

Since the last issue of The Clarion, we completed the 2019 Harvest on 29 August. It followed a good sunny August apart from a short spell of rain in the middle of the month. Our yields of grain were good this year, with the heavy rain in early June sufficient for the cereal plants' needs.

Our main crop is winter wheat with 555 hectares (1,363 acres) yielding 5,227 tonnes. Most of it is milling wheat suitable for milling into flour needed for making bread. This yield of 9.42 tonnes per hectare (3.8t/acre) was one of our best years ever. When we started farming Kensham Farm at Michaelmas 1955, such a yield would have been considered impossible – at that time 1.5 tonnes per acre would have been considered as excellent.

September is the month between harvest and seeding the next year's

autumn-sown crops. It's when jobs such as muck spreading can be carried out on stubbles. A few of the fields are ploughed, some are cultivated and others are just sprayed with Glyphosate to kill out any weed seedlings or young cereal plants. These can grow from light grains (known as volunteer seedlings) which were shed out of the back of the combine harvester. This is all in preparation of the fields for seeding the next year's crop in October.

Crop Rotation

I am sometimes asked what crop rotation we follow on our arable fields – the answer to which is that on many of our fields we grow continuous winter wheat, year after year, without any rotation of crops.

If we take a look right back into history, we find that in earlier centuries the problem was always how to

grow enough food to feed the increasing world population. In medieval times, peasants grew strips of crops, often in a three year rotation. Then much land was enclosed by fences or newly planted hedges, so by the mid 1800s most good, productive land had been enclosed.

There had been a great improvement in production of food from the land in the early 1700s when Charles Townshend developed a rotational system of cropping known as the 'Norfolk Four Course System'. This was a sequence each four years of **wheat, turnips, barley and clover**.

Each crop in this four year rotation had a purpose: -

The wheat was grown for milling (at those former times by windmills, or by the force of a stream turning a water wheel connected to millstones) to make bread.

Following the wheat, a root crop was grown such as turnips or swedes or mangold-wurzels as feed for the cattle for the next winter. Since the root crop would have been hoed by hand or with a horse hoe, this controlled the weeds which would have seeded in the preceding year's wheat crop.

After turnips or other root crop, the next year barley would have been grown. This was used to feed pigs which were reared for ham and



Charles 'Turnip' Townshend by Sir Godfrey Kneller (National Portrait Gallery)

smoked bacon, and also for malting to brew ale and beer.

After the barley, a clover ley was grown for grazing by sheep in fields or by cattle. This also controlled the weeds that would have multiplied in the barley crop, and since clover has root nodules which fix atmospheric nitrogen to form nitrates, these nitrates would have fertilised the soil ready for the wheat crop at the next four-season sequence of cropping.

UK Agriculture since World War II

The earlier four-course sequence of cropping was often used on mixed farms right up to the end of World

War II. Then in the post war years research scientists developed effective herbicides to kill weeds, and fungicides to prevent leaf diseases such as Septoria or mildew, and have improved the manufacture of inorganic fertilisers.

Nowadays the herbicides effectively kill any weeds, without having to kill them with a hoe in the root crop. Fertilisers now provide the nitrogen that in earlier years would have been fixed from atmospheric nitrogen by the root nodules of the clover crop.

The result of these developments is that farms nowadays specialise

more. Many arable farms on the Chiltern Hills and towards the Eastern Counties now crop the land with cereal crops on a continuing year by year basis. Farms towards the West of England and in Wales, where average rainfall is higher, often concentrate on rearing cattle for dairy produce or beef and sheep for the production of fat lambs, with wool as a by-product. That is why most of the fields in the West are pastures of permanent grass, often with wild white clover in the sward.

Autumn Seeding

The photos show our two seed drills



at work during October, which has been a difficult month with considerably higher than average rainfall. The smaller Weaving drill was at work on Myze Farm, with West Wycombe House in the background. It is mounted on the hydraulic linkage of the 215 horsepower tractor. It seeds a width of six metres, the hopper holds one tonne of seed, and it has a spot rate of around 12 acres per hour.

Much of the weight of the larger Dale drill, shown at work at Fillingdon Farm, is carried by its own wheels, with some of its weight transferred to the back wheels of the heavy 360 horsepower tractor which is necessary to draw it. The seeding width of this larger drill is 10m (32.8ft), the hopper holds 5 tonnes of seed and has a spot rate of around 22 acres

per hour. This has enabled us to make the best of the very few dry days this Autumn, with 230 acres seeded on the best day at the end of October.

Brexit

Most of us are tired of news about Brexit and the impending General Election – but those of us who work in the farming industry all hope that the next Government, whatever its colour, will recognise the importance of good quality home-grown food.

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Schools



Frieth Hilly

The 12th annual Frieth Hilly 10K and 5K race took place on Sunday 20 October.

The weather conditions were perfect and the atmosphere was wonderful.

The village and school community did a fantastic job of cheering on the runners, especially the choir who sang their hearts out. Headteacher, Mrs Reid enthused, 'It was wonderful to see the numbers of past pupils who participate and support our school each year.'

A massive thank you to the organising committee who put so much time and effort into making the race a huge success.



Harvest Service

On Monday 14 October, we were joined by Rev Carol Kimberley, parents, grandparents and community members to celebrate the harvest with a Church service. Prior to the service our year 3 and 4 pupils worked with our foundation governors and members of the



Church community to prepare the Harvest Loaf, complete with a harvest mouse, which took a central place on the altar for both the village and the school harvest services.

Each of the classes prepared a song or poem about Autumn or Harvest which they performed beautifully. Our eldest pupils led the

service, including readings, hymns, songs and prayers they had written themselves; and the final blessing was given by Rev Kimberley.

At Frieth school, the harvest is not just about being thankful, but is also about thinking of our wider communities and people in need. Therefore, as part of the Harvest Service, every child made a donation to the local 'One Can Trust' appeal and filled the altar with their fantastic gifts.

Thank you to all the children and parents who showed such generosity to the community.

Frieth Falcons wrap-around care

Frieth School is delighted to announce the new 'Frieth Falcons' wrap-around care facility. From 4 November, a breakfast club will be available from 7:55 until the start of the school day at 8:55am.

In January, we're launching the after-school care facility from 3:15pm to 6:15pm each afternoon. If you are interested in joining the team, we are currently recruiting for play leaders to help set up and run this exciting new venture for the school. Please see the school website for details.

The next open afternoon to look around Frieth CEC school is Friday 10 January.



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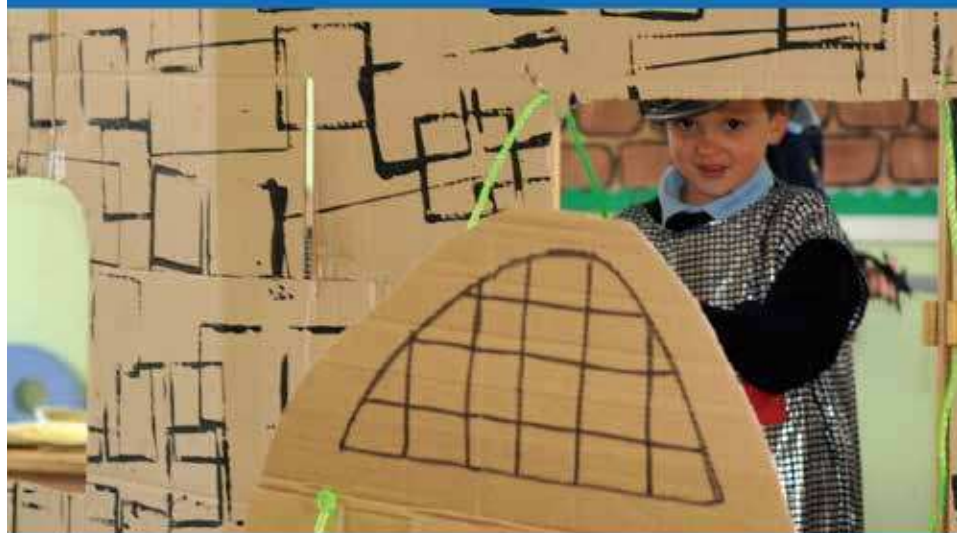
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Christmas wreaths

with Anya the garden fairy

Follow me on Instagram @anya_thegarden_fairy



As a gardener, I always have jobs to do, even at this time of year. I also make plans for next year, order seeds and reflect on the previous growing season, but there is also something else I do at this time of the year. Something I absolutely love. Christmas wreaths!

There is something so wonderful about a Christmas door wreath and making it yourself is one of the most rewarding and therapeutic things you can do during the usually very busy pre-Christmas time.

I've been making wreaths for years and foraging for materials is one of my favourite things. I'm always trying to use as little plastic as possible and creating a wreath without buying anything isn't difficult at all. There are so many things created by nature that will look wonderful in your wreath and a lot of them grow right there in our gardens.

I love the ivy with its berries, dry hydrangeas, variegated holly, mixed foliage from conifers and of course pheasant feathers. I love, love, love feathers. They add such a luxurious

feel to a wreath.

The origin of a door wreath isn't very clear. Some people say that the art of hanging Christmas wreaths originated from the Romans, who hung



wreaths on their doors as a sign of victory after winning a battle. There is also a very strong connection between a door wreath and Christianity, but I think that for many of us, a Christmas wreath is just a decoration and it's not associated with any symbolism or religion. I have to say that I absolutely love seeing wreaths hanging on people's doors around

Christmas time and I often stop to admire them.

I make wreaths for every season of the year, but Christmas is the time we mostly associate wreaths with. Recently, door wreaths became such a significant part of Christmas and I love that.

As I previously mentioned, I'm very passionate about the simple things and creating a wreath is one of them. Getting creative is so therapeutic and I hope I'll inspire you with it.

I always start by making my own base using a wire ring and moss. Both available online or in a craft shop. Moss will supply your foliage with moisture and keep your wreath fresh for longer.

I then create bundles of mixed foliage and attach them to the base using wire. I also like to use various branches like the wonderfully red *Cornus Elegantissima* for example. When my wreath is ready, I start decorating it with wax flowers, pine cones, dry oranges and anything else I can find that will add interest and texture to my wreath. Pre Christmas is usually so busy and instead of rushing around I like to slow down and get creative.



If you would like to see how to make a luxury Christmas wreath, you can follow me on Instagram [anya_thegarden_fairy](#) where I share lots of videos and tutorials. Enjoy the festive season everyone!



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Any copy submitted to The Clarion may be edited for space, content or style. By sending information or articles to the editor for inclusion, you are accepting these terms.

We welcome any news or diary dates from community organisations and letters from individuals. The next copy deadline is 1 February and the next issue will be delivered in March.

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